

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 09432 311239Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1253
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 09432

EXDIS

LONDON FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN. VIENNA FOR
LEDSKY.

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PFOR, FR, US, MT, CY
SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT: DE LABOULAYE MAY RAISE CYPRUS
AND MALTA

REFS: A. VALLETTA 342. B. VALLETTA 341. C. PARIS 7501.

1. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MEDITERRANEAN AFFAIRS BLOT
TELLS EMBOFF THAT INTER ALIA DE LABOULAYE INTENDS TO
DISCUSS CYPRUS AND PROBABLY MALTA WITH ASSISTANT
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SECRETARY HARTMAN DURING PARIS MEETING.

2. CYPRUS:
ON WESTERN TACTICS VIENNA INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS,
QUAI THINKS SIDES SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED FOR
NUMBER OF DAYS WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. IF
DEADLOCK SHOULD DEVELOP FRENCH THINK US SHOULD BE FIRST

TO INTERVENE, LEAVING FRANCE, FRG, AND OTHERS AMONG NINE AS RESERVES TO BE THROWN IN FOR SECOND TRY IF NEEDED. IN THIS CONNECTION, QUAI REQUESTS "US OBSERVER" INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS BE AUTHORIZED ESTABLISH PROMPT CONTACT WITH FRENCH EMBASSY VIENNA TO PASS INFO AND CONCERT TACTICS LOCALLY. FRENCH UNDERSTAND FROM FRG SOURCE THAT HEAD CYPRIOT AFFAIRS IN TURKISH FONMIN GUVENDIREN IS MEMBER TURKISH-CYPRIOT DELEGATION.

ON BROADER LEVEL, BLOT STRESSED IMPORTANCE QUAI ATTACHES TO NOT LOSING SIGHT OF AEGEAN AND AIRSPACE ISSUES, WHILE FOCUSING ON CYPRUS. RESULT COULD BE SIMPLY TRANSFERRING GREEK-TURKISH TENSION TO THESE OTHER AREAS, FOR INSTANCE, RISKING NEW SISMIK CRISIS NEXT SUMMER. BLOT ARGUES THAT US SHOULD THEREFORE KEEP PRESSURE ON TURKS AND AS NECESSARY ON GREEKS UNTIL OVERALL SOLUTION IS UNDER WAY.

3. MALTA:

QUAI CLAIMS TO BE ENTIRELY RELAXED OVER MINTOFF'S "ULTIMATUM" (VALLETTA'S REFS A AND B). BLOT, NEVERTHELESS, EXPRESSED MORE SPECIFIC CONCERN THAN IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS (PARIS REFTEL C, PARA 5) THAT MINTOFF AFFAIR "MUST BE MANAGED" SO AS TO AVOID POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT TURN TO LYBIANS OR, WORSE STILL, ACCEPT SOVIET FLEET FOR REPAIRS.

FRENCH WILL CONTINUE INSIST ON STRICT SEPARATION OF POLITICAL (I.E., NEUTRALITY) FROM ECONOMIC ISSUES. EVEN SO, BLOT REITERATED, THIS TIME WITH SOME FORCE, THAT FRENCH, STRICTLY FOR THEIR OWN INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

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OF PROBLEM, NEED TO KNOW SOON WHETHER US INTENDED TO CONTINUE THE PRESENT LEVELS OF US "AID" AFTER PRESENT AGREEMENT EXPIRES IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER. IMPLICATION WAS THAT THIS WAS ESSENTIAL.

EMBOFF REITERATED STANDING US INSTRUCTIONS THIS SUBJECT. BLOT REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD US TACTICAL RESERVE VIS-A-VIS MINTOFF, BUT REPEATED THAT FRENCH NEEDED CLEARER UNDERSTANDING US INTENTIONS IN ECONOMIC FIELD. BLOT SAID DE LABOULAYE WOULD PROBABLY "TOUCH" ON THIS ISSUE WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, AND THAT IT MAY THEN BE TAKEN UP MORE FORMALLY THEREAFTER.

FRENCH AND ITALIANS WILL HAVE NEXT GO-AROUND WITH MINTOFF IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS.
GAMMON

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